

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In order to advance the prosecution of this application, the subject matter of Claim 1 has been incorporated in Claim 2 with appropriate amendments, and Claim 5 has been made dependent upon Claim 2. Claims 9, 13, and 14 have been cancelled.

The rejection of Claims 2-4 was premised upon an assertion regarding Fig. 7 of Ueno that projections t around the edge of the pin head 11 constitute stops that extend outward from circular portions of the pin head. The disclosure of Ueno is devoid of any teaching or suggestion that the projections t constitute stops. Ueno states that the seal 13 of Fig. 7 is kept in position by appropriate projections t around the edge of the head 11. Presumably, in order to accomplish their intended function based on the manner in which the minuscule projections t are shown in Fig. 7, these projections would have to project inwardly into the material of the seal 13. The projections are not shown as extending outwardly from the periphery of the head 11.

Before the present amendment, Claim 2 recited that the stop comprises plate portions extending outwardly from the circular portions of the pin head. The term "outwardly" is consistent with the recitation of "outer" in the phrase "the head extending laterally from the shank to an outer periphery of the head" and "the flange extending laterally

from the shank to an outer periphery of the flange". It is respectfully submitted that the projections t of Ueno are not plate portions extending outwardly from the circular portions of the pin head.

Nevertheless, to avoid any possible interpretation of Ueno that might be said to render Claim 2 obvious, the claim has been amended to recite that the stop comprises plate portions extending laterally outward from the circular portions of the pin head. The term "extending laterally" is consistent with the use of this term in Claim 1, which recites "the head extending laterally from the shank to an outer periphery of the head" and "the flange extending laterally from the shank to an outer periphery of the flange". It is apparent from mere inspection of Fig. 7 of Ueno that the projections t are not plate portions extending laterally outward from the circular portions of the pin head. Cf, e.g., Figs. 1 and 2 of Applicant's drawings in which the plate portions 30 extend laterally outward from the circular portions of the pin head 10.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 2 and dependent Claims 3-7 should be allowed and that this application should be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and

has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NHS:lmb

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 903-9000

By: Nelson H. Shapiro
Nelson H. Shapiro
Reg. No. 17,095

March 16, 2005